



United States Dept.  
of Agriculture



**Flagstaff, Arizona**  
**USDA Service Center**

1585 S. Plaza Way, Ste 120  
Flagstaff, AZ 86001-7156

**Phone Number**

(928) 774-2401 Ext. 2

**Fax Number**

(928) 774-2780

**Office Hours**

Monday – Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (MST)

**County Committee**

Marilyn Savoini-Chairperson  
Nathan Kilgore - Vice Chair  
Diana Kessler - Member  
Joe Querta - Member  
Anita Waite – Member

**County Executive Dir.**

Arnie Schlittenhart  
(928) 774-2401 Ext. 105

**Office Staff**

Rose Gene, PT  
Calvin Johnson, PT

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Livestock Forage Program
- COC Election
- Selling Land
- more

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**November 20, 2008**

COC meeting - Flagstaff  
USDA Service Center  
10:00 am



# FSA NEWS

*Servicing Coconino, Mohave, and Yavapai Counties*

NOV  
2008



## Livestock Forage Program 2009



The 2008 Farm Bill established a new Supplemental Ag Disaster Assistance Program. One of the components of this new program is the

**Livestock Forage Disaster Program** or LFP. The LFP compensates ranchers for forage losses due to;

1. drought, on land that is either of the following:
  - native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover
  - planted to a crop specifically for providing grazing
2. fire, on rangeland managed by a Federal agency if the eligible livestock producer is prohibited from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland.

## HOW IT WORKS

Under LFP livestock producers are compensated for drought related losses based upon the severity of the drought as determined by the U.S. Drought Monitor. Payments will be made to livestock producers with owned or leased grazing land or pastureland physically located in a county with the following U.S. Drought Monitor designations;

• a **D2 (severe drought)** intensity in any area of the county for at least 8 consecutive weeks during the normal grazing period for that county. Under this designation, livestock producers will be eligible to receive a payment equal to 1 monthly payment

• a **D3 (extreme drought)** intensity in any area of the county at any time during the normal grazing period for that county. Under this designation, livestock producers will be eligible to receive a payment equal to 2 monthly payments.

• a **D3** for at least 4 weeks during the normal grazing period for that county, or **D4 (exceptional drought)** intensity in any area of the county during the normal grazing period for that county. Under this designation, livestock producers will be eligible to receive a payment equal to 3 monthly payments.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

To participate in the supplemental disaster programs for Crop Year 2009 and beyond, producers **must** purchase or obtain one of the following coverages for their grazing and/or crop land;

- **NAP coverage by filing the required paperwork, and paying the administrative fee of \$250 by December 1, 2008.**
- a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act, including pilot programs such as the Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Program

Failure to obtain a minimum level of catastrophic insurance will cause a producer to be ineligible for the disaster program.

### **\* NO SERVICE FEE FOR LIMITED RESOURCE PRODUCERS**

If you live in **Coconino County** and your household income is **\$22,500** or less, or

If you live in **Mohave County** and your household income is **\$19,350** or less, or

If you live in **Yavapai County** and your household income is **\$20,500** or less,

And have a gross sales of **\$100,000 or less** from farming and ranching

**then you qualify as a "Limited Resource Producer" and NO "Service Fee" is required.**



## **Voting for County Committee Begins**

Ballots for this year's county committee election will be mailed to eligible voters on November 3, 2008. Voters must complete their ballots and return them to the Farm Service Agency county office by the close of business on December 1, 2008. If mailed, ballots must be postmarked by midnight December 1, 2008. **Ballots will be counted at 10:00 am on December 4th at the Flagstaff USDA Service Center.**

The candidates in this year's election are:

Anita M. Waite is nominated in LAA 4, for all of Mohave County, except for the Hualapai Reservation to serve as a committee member. Joel Querta is nominated in LAA 3, for all of the Hualapai Reservation only.

Eligible voters in a local administrative area who have not received a ballot should contact the FSA county office staff.

**Voter Requirements** Persons meeting requirements in 1 or 2, plus 3, below, are eligible to vote:

1. Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch as either of the following:  
an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper, or  
a partner in a general partnership or member of a joint venture that has an interest in a farm as an owner, operator, tenant or sharecropper; or
2. Not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm; and
3. Participates or cooperates in any FSA program that is provided by law, regardless of the status of funding.

**Discrimination Prohibited** No person shall be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or mari-

## **Selling Land**

If you're planning to sell farmland, there may be some program consequences you should be aware of. For example, if you're planning to sell land that's enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you might have to refund all of the payments you've received to date.

Reviewing program implications with your local Farm Service Agency staff before completing a sale of farmland is always a prudent precaution.



## **Reasonable Accommodations**

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the Farm Service Agency county office staff, and we will be happy to make any arrangements that are necessary.



## **Wool & Mohair LDP Program**

Did you sell your Wool and/or Mohair and file a CCC-633EZ Page 1 with our office? If so, you must **submit your receipt's** to this office before the **January 31, 2009** deadline.

If you have already filed a CCC-633EZ Page 1 and have not sold your wool/mohair, **NO ACTION** required until you sell your wool/mohair.

**The Wool/Mohair LDP program is designed to support the wool and mohair industry by supplementing the price producers receive for their product when market prices fall below a minimum ("Loan") level.**

## **SURE Online Calculator**

The 2008 Farm Bill includes a new disaster program known as the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program. For your convenience, FSA has placed a SURE calculator on its Web site at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/fbapp?area=home&subject=landing&topic=landing>.

The calculator and instructions can be easily downloaded. Once the download is made, you will be able to calculate your estimated SURE Guarantee, estimated Expected Revenue, estimated Farm Revenue and estimated SURE payment.

**The calculator is a tool to help with calculations for SURE, it is not the approved software to compute and provide actual payment information.**

By using the calculator, producers and others may begin familiarizing themselves with SURE calculations which allows them to run various scenarios based on basic levels of insurance coverage versus buy up levels of insurance coverage. It is important to note that this calculator only addresses yield based crops and does not address value loss crops or those plans of insurance that are revenue based. It does not include calculations for situations such as prevented planting, first crop-second crop, or other scenarios.

**Note, FSA reminds users that the calculator and instructions are for informational purposes only. This calculator in no way provides exact FSA payments under SURE.**

## **CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT PROCESS**

Any person, class or group of persons may file a discrimination complaint within 180 days of an alleged discriminatory action. Complaints may be filed in writing or orally with the agency head or any designated agency official; the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Assistance in filing a complaint can be obtained by calling or visiting any FSA office.



### **Change in Farming Operations?**

Update signature authorization when changes in the operation occur. Producers are reminded to contact the office of a change in operations on a farm so records can be kept current and accurate or visiting any FSA office.

### **Foreign Buyers Notification**

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA. Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25% of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, Realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.



### **Power of Attorney**

*For those who find it difficult to visit the county office personally because of work schedules, distance, health, etc., FSA has a power of attorney form available that enables you to designate*

*another person to conduct your business at the office.*

*Producers and landowners who previously executed an FSA-211 (Power of Attorney) will need to fill out a new FSA-211 form to be able to sign 2008 documents. For more information, please contact any Farm Service Agency office in your area.*



### **AGRICULTURAL LOANS--AVAILABLE**

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes and Guarantees agricultural loans; provides credit counseling and supervision to farmers and ranchers who are temporarily unable to obtain private & commercial credit.

FSA lends money & provides supervision to eligible applicants who operate family-size farms.

All loans must meet qualifying criteria to be eligible.

### **TYPES OF LOANS AVAILABLE**

- Farm Ownership (FO)
- Farm Operating (OL)
- Emergency (EM)
- Youth loans



### **DIRECT AND GUARANTEED LOANS AVAILABLE**

The Farm Service Agency is committed to providing family farmers with loans to meet their farm credit needs. If you are having trouble getting the credit you need, or regularly borrow from FSA, direct & guaranteed loans are available now.

Ask your lender about an FSA loan guarantee if you've had a setback and your lender is reluctant to extend or renew your loan. Loan funds are available now — apply early so that a loan can be processed and funded in a timely manner. Most of our loan programs have special funding available for minority, female and beginning farmers.

FSA staff will help you complete the necessary forms and application, and help you understand what information is required and where to get it. To find out more about FSA loan programs, contact the county office staff.

### **LOAN PURPOSE**

With a Direct or Guaranteed FO Loan, you can purchase farmland, build or repair buildings and other fixtures, & promote soil & water conservation. Guaranteed FO Loans may also be used to refinance debt.

For additional information contact:

**Harriett Mann**

**51 West Vista Drive, # 2  
Holbrook, AZ 86025-1844  
(928) 524-3214 Ext. 2**

**or**

**Doug Littau**

**230 N. 1st Avenue, Suite 506  
Phoenix, AZ 85003-1726**

**United States Department of Agriculture**

Farm Service Agency  
Coconino, Mohave, Yavapai County  
1585 S. Plaza Way, Suite 120  
Flagstaff, AZ 86001-7156



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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

### Outreach Schedule for November 2008

Signup Location	Date	Time
Kingman USDA Service Center 101 E Beale St Kingman, AZ 86401	November 21, 2008	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Prescott Cooperative Extension Office 840 Rodeo Dr., Bldg C Prescott, AZ 86305	November 25, 2008	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Tonalea Chapter House	November 26, 2008	10:00 am – 2:00 pm

**This schedule will be in place as long as the weather & road condition permits.**

**NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.